

ST TOM'S AND ST ED'S

AUGUST NEWS

THE SECOND LETTER
OF PAUL TO THE

CORINTHIANS



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AUGUST SERMON SERIES

Our Gentle and Lowly sermon series is coming to an end in August! Over 10 Sundays we have looked at the heart of Christ for sinners and sufferers. Christ, a Saviour, an Advocate, a Friend, full of tenderness, grace and compassion, who delights to show mercy, who gives rest to those who are burdened. Gentle and Lowly has helped us grow in confidence of the doctrines of grace, and the character and nature of God toward us.

In the latter half of the year, we move to 2 Corinthians: a dive into the struggles of the early church amidst its culture. This series is a run-up to our theme verses for this year '*Blessed to be a Blessing*' (2 Cor 9:8-12) which we will explore in depth at the retreat.

SERIES	DATE	TITLE / INFO	SCRIPTURE	PREACHER ST TOM'S	PREACHER ST ED'S
Gentle and Lowly	6 Aug	He loved them to the end	John 13:1-11	8.15: Denise 10.30: Rachel	Denise
Psalms	13 Aug		Ros: Psalm 137 John: Psalm 84	8.15: Ros 10.30: John	Ros
2 Corinthians	20 Aug	Dear Corinthians	2 Corinthians 1:1-14	8.15: Ros 10.30: Karen	Ros
	27 Aug	Wish We'd Done More	Gal 2:11-16	John (Combined English at St Tom's 10.30am)	Combined at St Tom's 10.30am

For additional readings see [2023 Planner & Sermon Series](#) on Elvanto or request a copy by emailing admin@sttoms.org

REFLECTION - TRACY CHEN



Every week, we have almost 40 young parents coming to playgroups and many asking to join. A dozen school-age children come and learn about Christianity on Thursday evening, and nearly 30 people from various backgrounds come to St Tom's on Saturday for English classes. Those are the people who willingly walked into a church, willingly came to talk and make friends. God has led all these people to our doorsteps, into our doors.

In Peter Adam's sermon, he talked about praying for ministers, praying about bringing more people into the church and praying about sending out workers into the field and harvest. In fact, many of us could also be praying about being the workers who God sends to the field.

"Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Matthew 9:37-38

I used to pray about ministries and how they should be done, and then I waited, hoping and thinking others would come and do the job. Never had I thought to stand at the front to preach, or lead, not to mention to do ministry. Although there was a sense of burden, I doubted my ability to serve. Not believing that God would let someone who is not smart or talented work for him. Also, a part of me just simply refused to be in ministry.

Still, the Holy Spirit didn't give up on me. There were twinges when not able to tell people Christ is the solution; the agony of not being able to reach out to people who need Jesus; tired of waiting for people to walk into our services; heartbroken when people leave church...

"But he said to me 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'"

2 Corinthians 12:9a

"God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things - and the things that are not - to nullify the things that are,"

1 Corinthians 1:28

Now, I am still weak, but with God's grace, I am strong and I have enough. All my worries while interning at St Tom's had always been answered by God through His words and His people. God gave me courage and affirmed to me that ministry is the right path.

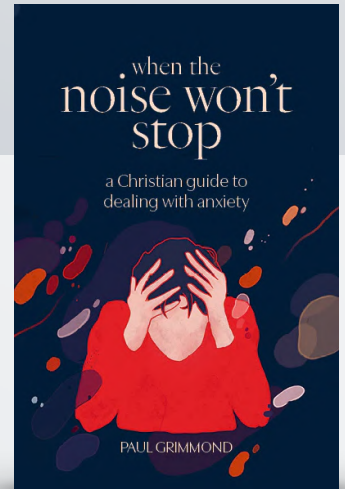
Of course, it doesn't solve the problem, those people who willingly walk into St Tom's are still mostly non-Christian, and we still have lots of work to do. So, please continue praying for the ministers and the ministries. Also, when possible, consider praying about helping in one of St Tom's ministries.

Tracy

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

when the noise won't stop

Paul Grimmond



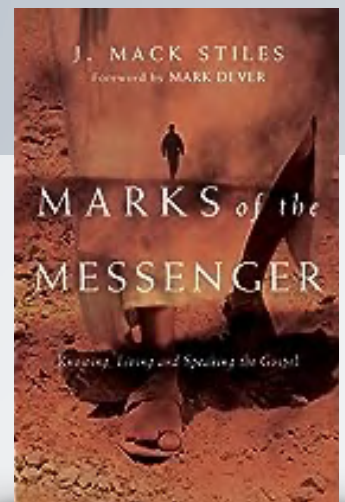
Is there a relationship between anxiety and sin? If so, what does the Bible say about it? Does the gospel offer comfort to those suffering from anxiety disorders? How can our hope in Christ lead us when living seems impossibly hard? Are psychology and medication biblical ways to seek help?

When the noise won't stop combines deep personal experience and comprehensive biblical study to demonstrate how the gospel addresses the pain and difficulty of anxiety. Avoiding simplistic answers while candidly sharing his own struggles, Dean of Students at Moore Theological College in Sydney, Paul Grimmond presents readers with a future that is both down-to-earth and full of hope, showing how the good news of Jesus offers light and promise to those who are suffering.

When the noise won't stop is a much-needed encouragement for Christians dealing personally with an anxiety disorder and for Christians caring for someone with this growing societal problem.

Marks of the Messenger

J Mack Stiles



Many think evangelism is rooted in a method. It is rooted in something much deeper. It is found in what makes us whole and healthy messengers of God's truth about Jesus.

Mack Stiles has lived the life of the healthy evangelist in homes and coffee shops, at universities and farms. He has lived out and spoken about the gospel to Kenyans, Koreans, Arabs and North Americans. What he has learned around the world and at home is summarized here in a few basic truths that can shape any of us into faithful people who bring good news to needy and hurting friends. The whole gospel changes much more than our relationship with God. Stiles shows how it changes all of who we are and what we do. It means learning the whole gospel without shaping its message to meet our tastes. It means not just going through the motions of accepted behaviors. It means showing the unity of witness and justice. It means love. It means community.

UNCLE GLENN ON A VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

27 August 2023, 11.45am, at St Tom's (after the 10.30 services)

A script for us

"Well-meaning but naïve young vicar (sorry John, that's you) leads congregation into support for fashionable 'woke' social agenda on Aboriginal self-determination. Older and wiser heads remain unconvinced. Conflict ensues - people shout at each other and doors are slammed as generations clash."

Doesn't that sound like the plot for a movie about the 1960s?

Of course, the Hollywood cliché view would be oblivious to the long history of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Christian leaders who have called for justice and a degree of self-determination for Australia's First Nations peoples. And we know that Hollywood is never a good model for our relationships.

On Sunday 27 August, we have invited the Rev Canon Glenn Loughery to run a seminar at St Tom's to help us better understand the proposed Aboriginal Voice to Parliament, which will be the subject of a Constitutional referendum in October this year. Glenn Loughery is a Wiradjuri man and his day job is as Vicar of St Oswald's Glen Iris. The Diocese of Melbourne has released him from that job for six months to work as an advocate for

the Voice to Parliament. Glenn will explain to us what the Voice proposal is and what it is not, and there will be time for questions and discussion. I urge you to plan to attend and to invite your families and friends.

Questions about Aboriginal people can be personally threatening for many Australians, tangled as they are with our history, identity, guilt and the fear of division. But Christians know the importance of truth, repentance and reconciliation. We of all people should be able to listen in good faith with and seek to understand the experience of our Aboriginal brothers and sisters.

Wouldn't it be ironic if the referendum on establishing a Voice for Aboriginal Australians were to be characterised by the refusal of a majority of Australians to listen to their voices.

As members of the family of God and citizens of His kingdom, we carry a responsibility to work for truth and justice in our nation. Let us remember that God's script is for us to be people of honesty, humility and deep Biblical morality in our relationships and our decisions.

Ruth Kernebone
Churchwarden

WHAT'S ON AT ST EDWARD'S



LOVE IN A CUP CAFE

Thursday 27th August 1pm - 2.30pm at St Ed's

Join us for great food, good conversation and the monthly quiz. Cost is a gold coin donation. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday, 1pm - 2.30 pm in the foyer at St Ed's. We're currently studying the book of Acts. All welcome to join.

MONDAY EXERCISE CLASS

Exercise group in the hall for mature people. Includes balance, muscle strengthening and stretching exercises. Cost \$10 per session.



CRAFT GROUP

Wednesdays 10.30am - 12 noon

St Edward's Craft group in the foyer. Bring your own projects or join in making fabric Christmas stars for a charity fundraiser. All welcome.

CONTACT DETAILS

Minister	Ros Armstrong	rarmstrong@melbourneanglican.org.au	0438 706 815
Church Wardens	Jenny Lynch	jenny.r.lynch@gmail.com	0490 951 459
	Stephen Smith	marilynms129@yahoo.com	0419 888 579
	Ray Walker	raybulldogs26@gmail.com	0438 011 8812
Church Office		office@stedwards.org.au	

COMMUNITY NEWS

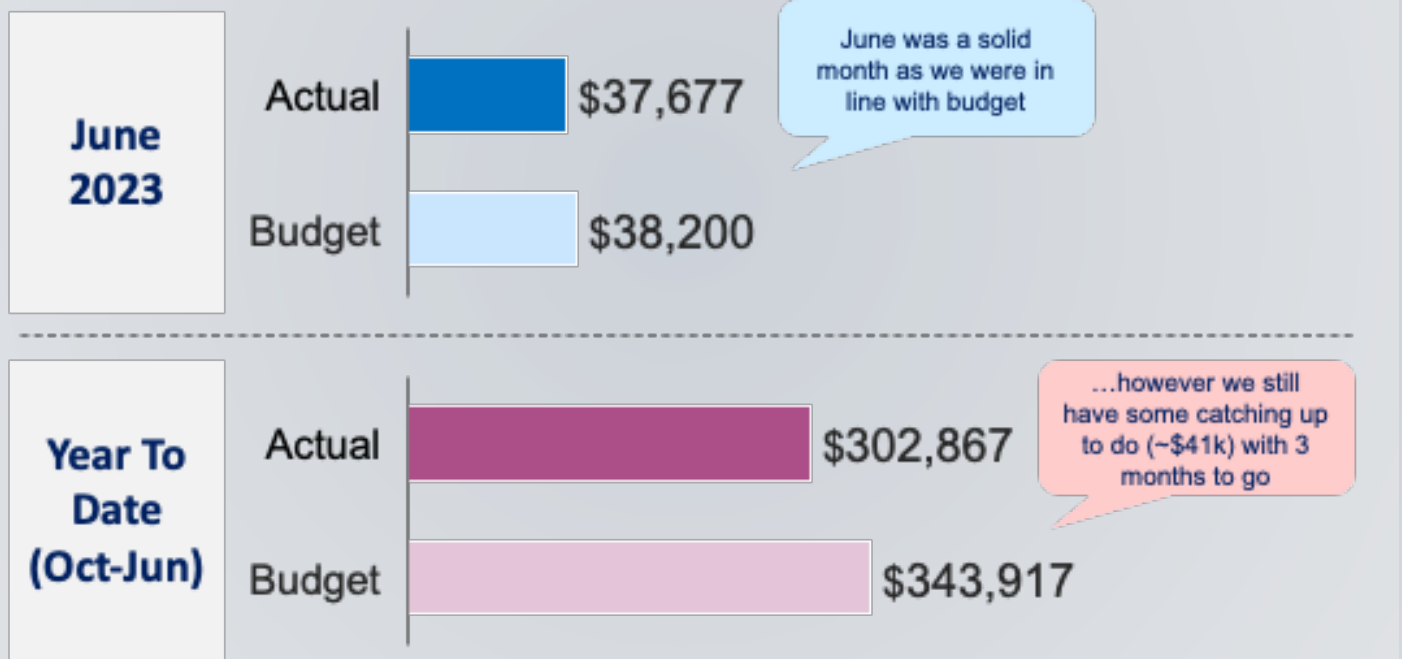
PRAYER MEETINGS AT ST TOM'S

Next Prayer Meeting:
3 August 2023, 7.30pm at St Tom's

Know that the Lord he is God: it is he who has made us and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Come into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: give thanks to him, and bless his holy name. (Psalm 100:2-3)

TREASURER UPDATE

General Account



Eucalypts will be meeting on **Thursday 10th of August** at 1pm at St Tom's. For more information contact Ros: rosa@sttoms.org.

WOMEN'S AFTERNOON TEA

Saturday 12 August 2023,
2pm - 4pm at St Tom's

For more info and to RSVP, Text Catherine on 0481 830 261



CHURCH RETREAT

It's just over a month away until our Church Retreat!

On Friday 8 - Sunday 10 September we will be heading down to CYC Adventure Resort, Phillip Island to spend a weekend together looking at 2 Corinthians 9 on the topic 'Blessed to be a Blessing'.

We will be welcoming Karen Winsemius, the Generations Pastor at Oaktree Anglican as our guest speaker. Over more than 15 years, Karen has been working at different churches across Melbourne focusing on ministry to young people and their families. Karen loves seeing people grow in their knowledge and love of Jesus, and she looks forward to helping us to do that on our retreat!

We have a limited number of registrations available, if you are planning to attend, please register as soon as possible!

Questions? Contact Rachel rachelgh@sttoms.org or Catherine admin@sttoms.org.

[Register](#)

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

A service of Holy Communion occurs monthly at several Aged Care Centres around St Tom's and St Ed's. All residents are welcome to join.



Fountain Court. 4th Thursday of the month at 11 am.

Next service: 11 am Thursday 24 August

John Flynn. 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11 am.

Next service: 11 am Tuesday 15 August

Blackburn Lake Regis. 1st Wednesday of the month at 11:15 am.

Next service: 11:15 am Wednesday 2 August

Inala Regis. 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.30 am.

Next service: 10.30 am Tuesday 16 August

FINANCES



Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV

If you consider St Tom's your church then please prayerfully consider giving financially to its ministry. The running of St Tom's relies upon the generosity of its members. Below you can see the amounts which are required on a monthly basis for running our church. Most people find giving either by Direct Debit, or online, the most convenient way and setting their giving to reoccur monthly or weekly.

There are many ways to give financially, such as:



Direct Debit
(see account details below)



Online with a Credit / Debit Card - go to sttoms.org/give or via tithe scan



Cash or Cheque, into the offering taken up during our services

St Tom's encourage giving electronically:

	Account Name	BSB	Account No.	Monthly Required
General Account	St Thomas Burwood	063-112	1039 7091	\$ 38,200
Building Fund	St Thomas ADF Building Fund	703-122	0500 5091	\$ 3,800
Necessitous Circumstances (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE)	St Thomas Burwood	063-112	1054 9390	
St Tom's Hope (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE)	St Toms Hope LTD	633-000	159591023	\$ 1,000

CONTACT DETAILS

	Coordinator	Email	Mobile
Small Groups	Denise Clarke	denisec@sttoms.org	0438 595 527
Meals	Lyndie Gebert	meals@sttoms.org	0417 304 894
Handy Help	Peter Crandle	handyhelp@sttoms.org	
Pastoral Care	Annette Ward	pastoralcare@sttoms.org	0411 624 573
Prayer Circle (prayer requests)	Yvonne Edwards	prayer@sttoms.org	0432 477 766
Women's Mentoring	Position vacant		

CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

Catherine Hallyburton and Ming Lau are our Child Safety Officers. Contact details back page.

FAMILY SAFETY CHAMPION

Lyndie Gebert	gebertll@gmail.com	0417 304 894
Ida Mak 麥趙淑貞	idascmak@gmail.com	0488 332 438

WARDENS

Ida Mak 麥趙淑貞	idascmak@gmail.com	0488 332 438
Ruth Kernebone	ruthk@ozemail.com.au	0408 345 136
Steve Tong	tongsyc@gmail.com	0459 453 847

ST TOM'S HOPE

Josephine Armstrong	English Class Coordinator	josephinea@sttomshope.org	0488 022 103
Melinda van der Westhuizen	Kids Hope Coordinator	mva66253@gmail.com	0403 182 654
Paula Adams- Grant	Coach Coordinator Hope Filled Bags	paulaa@sttomshope.org	0438 899 630



STAFF & MINISTRY TEAM

John Carrick	Lead Minister	johnc@sttoms.org	0412 438 021
	WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN		
Ros Armstrong	Congregations Minister (8:15 10:15 St Edward's)	rosa@sttoms.org	0438 706 815
	WORK DAYS: MON (ST), WED (SE), THU (SE), SUN		
Joshua Millard	Assistant Minister	joshuam@sttoms.org	0450 638 890
	WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN		
Rachel Gijbers Hayman	Children & Families Coordinator	rachelgh@sttoms.org	0413 158 010
	WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, SUN		
Joey Chan	Chinese Congregations Minister	joeyc@sttoms.org	0481 238 631
	WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN		
Karen Morris	Evangelistic Ministries Coordinator	karenm@sttoms.org	0417 765 210
	WORK DAYS: MON, TUE		
Tracy Chen	Pastoral Care Intern	tracyc@sttoms.org	0430 656 456
	WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, SUN		
Denise Clarke	Small Groups Ministry	denisec@sttoms.org	0438 595 527
	WORK DAYS: NO PARTICULAR DAY		
Catherine Hallyburton	Admin Assistant / Child Safe Officer	admin@sttoms.org	9808 3250 0481 830 261 SMS
	MON, TUE, WED, THU		
Ming Lau	Chinese Admin / Child Safe Officer	ch.admin@sttoms.org	0402 581 838
	MON, THU (THU - IN THE OFFICE 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM)		